

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 110056  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:JACOON:DAM  
APPROVED BY NEA/PAB:JACOON  
NEA - AGLASPIE  
S/S-O:SVALERGA

-----119023 292255Z /66

O P 292245Z APR 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY KABUL IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 110056

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS 1

TAGS: PINS, AF

SUBJECT: REPEAT OF STATE 143450 OF JULY 20, 1973  
- -

FOR EMBASSY'S INFORMATION FOLLOWING IS REPEATED TEXT OF  
SUBJECT TELEGRAM. SEPTTEL FOLLOWS. QUOTE:

SUBJECT: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH DAUD REGIME

REFS: A. STATE 142393; B. KABUL 5319; C. KABUL 5325

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES EMBASSY'S DISCREET CONTACTS  
WITH DAUD AND NAIM AND RECOMMENDATION IN REF. B. WE ALSO  
APPRECIATE FULL REPORTING FROM EMBASSY INDICATING STEPS  
REGIME HAS TAKEN TO CONSOLIDATE ITS POSITION AND ITS

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APPARENT SUCCESS IN EXERTING EFFECTIVE CONTROL THROUGHOUT  
COUNTRY.

2. THE BASIC THRUST OF OUR APPROACH IS TO PLAY ANY QUESTION  
ABOUT RECOGNITION IN AS LOW A KEY AS POSSIBLE WITH A VIEW  
TO AVOIDANCE OF SEEMING TO APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE THE NEW  
GOVERNMENT. THIS IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH DEPARTMENT PRACTICE

FOR THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS, AND WITH S-RES. 205 (1969)

QUOTE THAT IT IS THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT WHEN THE UNITED STATES RECOGNIZES A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT AND EXCHANGES DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES WITH IT, THIS DOES NOT IMPLY THAT THE UNITED STATES NECESSARILY APPROVES OF THE FORM, IDEOLOGY, OR POLICY OF THAT FOREIGN GOVERNMENT. UNQUOTE IN BRIEF, THE DEPARTMENT'S POLICY IS TO MINIMIZE TO THE GREATEST EXTENT POSSIBLE RECOGNITION QUESTIONS. UNCERTAINTIES GENERATED BY THE TRADITIONAL RECOGNITION POLICY, WHICH MANY EQUATED WITH APPROVAL, HAVE NOT SERVED UNITED STATES INTERESTS WELL. THEREFORE, ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOT YET FORMALLY MOVED TO FRENCH PRACTICE OF RECOGNIZING STATES RATHER THAN GOVERNMENTS, WE ATTEMPT TO AVOID DIRECT ADDRESS TO THE QUESTION OF RECOGNITION WHEREVER POSSIBLE. GENERALLY, ONCE THE SITUATION HAS CLARIFIED, THE NEW REGIME IS FIRMLY ESTABLISHED, AND OTHER GOVERNMENTS HAVE BEGUN TO RECOGNIZE OR FORMALLY TO CONTINUE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, WE FIND AN APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITY TO ADVISE THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF OUR INTENTION TO MAINTAIN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. RECOGNITION IS NOT MENTIONED BUT MAY BE IMPLIED. IN SEVERAL RECENT CASES, HOWEVER, WHERE THERE HAVE BEEN ELEMENTS OF CONTINUITY IN THE SITUATION (INCLUDING THE RECENT ABROGATION OF THE MONARCHY IN GREECE) THE DEPARTMENT HAS TAKEN THE POSITION THAT NO QUESTION OF RECOGNITION ARISES. TO DO SO IN  
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THIS CASE WHERE NO ELEMENTS OF CONTINUITY ARE APPARENT WOULD BE ANOTHER SIGNIFICANT STEP IN THE DIRECTION OF A GENERAL POLICY IN WHICH THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT FORMALLY RECOGNIZE GOVERNMENTS BUT MERELY DETERMINES WHETHER TO MAINTAIN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THEM. WE ARE PRESENTLY CONSIDERING WHETHER TO TAKE THIS STEP.

3. UNTIL CONSULTATIONS COMPLETED PER REF A, EMBASSY SHOULD MAINTAIN ROUTINE WORKING CONTACTS AND HOLD OPEN LINES OF COMMUNICATION TO GOVERNMENT OFFICES; AVOID FORMAL ACTS THAT MIGHT BE CONSTRUED AS RECOGNITION; AND AVOID STATEMENTS SUGGESTING THAT RECOGNITION IS A MAJOR QUESTION THAT WE SHALL FORMALLY OR DRAMATICALLY DECIDE AND ANNOUNCE.

4. WE STRONGLY SUPPORT YOUR EFFORT TO ESTABLISH INFORMAL CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION TO DAUD AND WISH TO EMPHASIZE THAT QUESTIONS OF RECOGNITION DISCUSSED ABOVE DO NOT IN ANY WAY RESTRICT YOUR FLEXIBILITY IN ESTABLISHING INFORMAL CONTACT WITH NEW AUTHORITIES. IN SHORT, CONTACTS ARE BEING MAINTAINED AND WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO YOUR PROVIDING YOUR INTERLOCUTOR WITH A WRITTEN RECORD OF ANY

INFORMAL MESSAGE YOU WISH TO COMMUNICATE, WHICH RECORD  
COULD BE TRANSMITTED TO DAUD. THE THRUST OF YOUR MESSAGE  
CAN BE THAT WE LOOK FORWARD TO FRIENDLY AND CONSTRUCTIVE  
RELATIONS. END QUOTE. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** RECOGNITION, BRIEFING MATERIALS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE110056  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** JACOON:DAM  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 78 STATE 142393, 78 KABUL 5319, 78 KABUL 5325  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REPEAT OF STATE 143450 OF JULY 20, 1973 -- FOR EMBASSY'S INFORMATION FOLLOWING IS REPEATED TE  
**TAGS:** PINS, AF, US  
**To:** KABUL  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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